Special Issue

GIS and Forest Natural Resource Inventory

Message from the Guest Editor

GIS provide a framework for location-based forest resource data analysis. The quantification of variation in forest areas has long been an objective of forest inventory and management. The spatial and temporal variation of the property that can be detected will often depend on the spatial and temporal scale, as well as the size of the mapping unit. The information levels used in forestry reporting are typically hierarchically divided into: (1) tree level; (2) stand level; (3) farm level; (4) region level; and (5) country level.

The relative spatial distribution of forests and trees varies, because of changing land use practices, differenent soil, and the hydrology, competition, and size distribution of trees. There are many forestry variables that are spatially sparse and scattered. Sometimes, complex spatial models are hard to evaluate, because it is difficult to find sufficient empirical data sets, as well as to compare exactly which aspects of spatiotemporal patterns are crucial for either a correct simulation, or a future model application. However, our subject can contain many application and spatial subjects, where outputs are produced in the form of a GIS layer.

Guest Editor

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Forests (ISSN 1999-4907) is an international and cross-disciplinary, scholarly forestry journal. The distinguished editorial board and refereeing process ensures the highest degree of scientific rigor and review of all published articles. Original research articles and timely reviews are released online, with unlimited free access. Our goal is to have *Forests* be recognized as one of the foremost publication outlets for high quality, leading edge research in this broad and diverse field. We therefore invite you to be one of our authors, and in doing so share your important research findings with the global forestry community.

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